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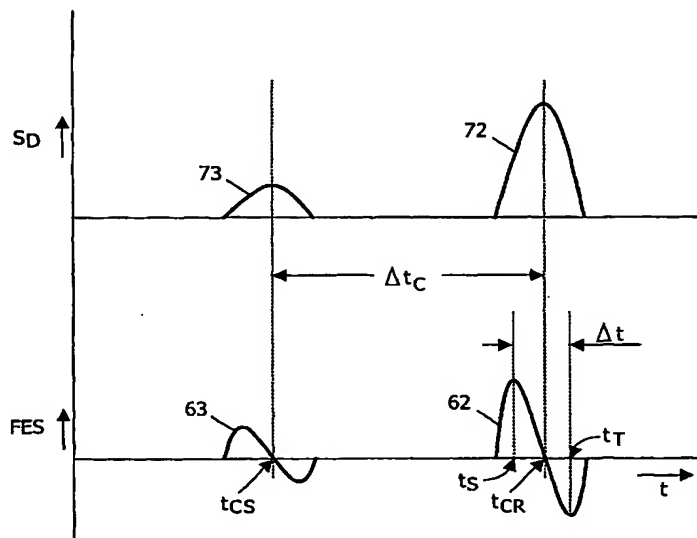
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(54) Title: **DISC DRIVE APPARATUS, AND METHOD FOR RECOGNIZING CD AND DVD**



(57) Abstract: A method is described for measuring the thickness of an optical disc and determining whether the disc is a CD or a DVD. The optical lens is caused to move towards the disc with a substantially constant speed, with the optical beam switched on, and the focal error signal (FES) is analyzed. By timing the S-shaped curve (62), the actual value of said speed is determined. By timing different reflections (72,73) from the disc, taking into account the measured speed, the thickness of the disc is determined. An important advantage is that the outcome of the thickness measurement is substantially independent from the actual value of said speed, and thus independent from the actual sensitivity of the actuator.



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